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Draft report

Rapporteur: Jawad Ali (Pakistan)

Addendum

Integration and coordination of efforts by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and Member States in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice

1. At its 7th and 8th meetings, on 16 and 17 May 2018, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice considered agenda item 6, which read as follows:

"Integration and coordination of efforts by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and by Member States in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice:

(a) Ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto;

(b) Ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption;

(c) Ratification and implementation of the international instruments to prevent and combat terrorism;

(d) Other crime prevention and criminal justice matters;

(e) Other activities in support of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in particular activities of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network, non-governmental organizations and other bodies."

2. For its consideration of item 6, the Commission had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Executive Director on the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (E/CN.7/2018/2-E/CN.15/2018/2);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on international cooperation in combating transnational organized crime and corruption (E/CN.15/2018/4);

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(c) Report of the Secretary-General on technical assistance in implementing the international conventions and protocols related to terrorism (E/CN.15/2018/5);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network (E/CN.15/2018/7);

(e) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (E/CN.15/2018/8);

(f) Note by the Secretary-General on the nomination of a member of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (E/CN.15/2017/17).

3. Introductory statements were made by the Chief of the Organized Crime and Illicit Trafficking Branch, the Chief of the Corruption and Economic Crime Branch, the Chief a.i. of the Terrorism Prevention Branch and the Chief of the Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling Section.

4. Statements were made by the representatives of Japan, China, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, the United States, Colombia, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Italy.

5. Observers for Tunisia, Viet Nam, Algeria, Canada, Thailand, Lebanon, Iraq and Libya also made statements.

6. Observers for the League of Arab States and for the Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders made statements.

7. The observer for the International Police Association made a statement.

A. Deliberations

1. Ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto

Work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in facilitating the ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

8. Several speakers stated that transnational organized crime was a threat to security and expressed concern about the nexus between organized crime and terrorism. Many speakers reiterated that the Organized Crime Convention and its Protocols were the principal legal tools in that context and called for the full use of their provisions on international cooperation.

9. Several speakers shared examples of their domestic implementation efforts and called upon States to become parties to the Convention and its Protocols if they had not yet done so. Several speakers highlighted crimes of particular concern for which those instruments would provide a useful framework. Those crimes included cybercrime, trafficking in persons, including for organ removal, smuggling of migrants and trafficking in firearms.

10. Several speakers expressed their support for the establishment of a review mechanism for the Convention and its Protocols. One speaker expressed reservations about the proposal currently under consideration. Speakers stated that the dialogue should continue in the lead-up to and during the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties.

11. Many speakers expressed appreciation for the technical assistance, capacity-building and research work undertaken by UNODC to support States in the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols. A call was made for increased funding from a more diverse pool of donors.

2. Ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption

Work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in facilitating the ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption

12. Speakers reiterated their commitment to the Convention against Corruption and the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and reported on the measures taken to implement the Convention.

13. They stressed that the Implementation Review Mechanism played an important role in their efforts to effectively implement the Convention and highlighted the transparent and impartial nature of the Mechanism. Some speakers highlighted the role of civil society in the Implementation Review Mechanism.

14. Many speakers stressed the importance of asset recovery and the need for effective international cooperation. They also underlined the central role of the Conference of the States Parties and its resolutions for generating and strengthening political will.

15. A number of speakers underlined the importance of the technical assistance provided by UNODC for implementing the Convention, including through the joint UNODC/World Bank Stolen Asset Recovery (StAR) Initiative.

3. Ratification and implementation of the international instruments to prevent and combat terrorism

16. Speakers reiterated the commitment of their Governments to countering terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. A number of speakers expressed appreciation for the technical assistance provided by UNODC on counter-terrorism matters and requested that the provision of technical assistance be further strengthened, in line with national and regional priorities. They also called for continued financial support to do so.

17. Some speakers described the efforts undertaken by their Governments to counter terrorism and called for joint action and enhanced international counter-terrorism cooperation. The importance of public-private partnerships was also mentioned.

18. A number of speakers called for action to address specific issues, including addressing the drivers of terrorism, nuclear terrorism, the links between terrorism and organized crime, the misuse of the Internet by terrorist groups, and foreign terrorist fighters.

19. The negative impact of terrorism on development was noted, as was the need for a balanced implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

4. Other crime prevention and criminal justice matters

20. States were called upon to fully implement the Organized Crime Convention, the Trafficking in Persons Protocol and the Smuggling of Migrants Protocol, which together formed the international framework for effectively preventing and combating those crimes.

21. The importance of sharing information on the protection of victims and the safe return of trafficked victims was highlighted, as was the importance of a victim-centred and trauma-informed approach to prosecutions.

22. One speaker stated that UNODC was one of the most important partners in the fight against trafficking in persons. The Commission, being the forum within the United Nations system for law enforcement and criminal justice policy, was called upon to take a leadership role in strengthening the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons, in particular to avoid duplication, enhance active cooperation between United Nations organizations and maximize donor support.

5. Other activities in support of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in particular activities of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network, non-governmental organizations and other bodies

23. The contributions made by the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network to the crime prevention and criminal justice agenda were highlighted. Reference was made to a number of recent activities undertaken by the institutes, including the development and sharing of knowledge on topics such as corruption, violence against women and children, restorative justice, access to justice and the prevention of radicalization and terrorism. The work that they were undertaking in the areas of research and capacity-building was mentioned, as were their contributions to the preparations for the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice. One speaker encouraged all institutes of the network to continue utilizing all data collected and published by UNODC.

B. Action taken

24. At its 8th meeting, on 17 May, the Commission decided to transmit to the Economic and Social Council the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Board of Trustees of UNICRI (E/CN.15/2018/8), which had been prepared pursuant to a decision of the Board of Trustees taken at its meeting held on 25 and 26 October 2017 in order to report to the Council, through the Commission, in accordance with article 4, paragraph 3 (e), of the statute of the Institute (Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/56, annex).

25. At the same meeting, the Commission recommended to the Economic and Social Council that Suzanne Hayden (United States) be appointed to the UNICRI Board of Trustees.